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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

CHINA.

Report from Hongkong.

HONGKONG, CHINA, *October 31, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection service at this station for the week ended October 27, 1900: Seven hundred and two baths were given during the week and 658 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. Only 1 death from plague was reported during the past week which occurred among the harbor population. No other quarantinable disease exists at present in the colony.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

COLOMBIA.

Report from Bocas del Toro—Fruit port.

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, *November 20, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith report of transactions at this station from September 16, 1900, to and including November 19, 1900.

The number of vessels inspected clearing for ports in the United States during this period of time is as follows: Cleared for New York via Port Limon, Costa Rica, 1; cleared for Baltimore, Md., 5; cleared for New Orleans, La., 4; cleared for Mobile, Ala., 21; total, 31. Number of passengers inspected, bound to New Orleans, La., 1; Mobile, Ala., 5; total, 6. Number of pieces of baggage disinfected, 11.

There have been 10 cases of yellow fever in the town of Bocas del Toro from July 15, 1900, to November 19, 1900, of which 3 died, 5 recovered, and 2 yet remain under treatment.

All the premises lately infected with yellow fever, except 4, have been disinfected, 3 of which I am assured will be disinfected in a few days, the present occupants of 1 dwelling positively objecting to any preventive or hygienic measures. It is extremely difficult to secure any reliable or official information relative to the existence of prevailing diseases, or the cause of death in this community.

Certificates as to the cause of death are not required by the authorities, and there is no official record open to inspection. I would respectfully suggest that during the quarantine season the laboring fruit crews be required to wear uniform clothing of washable material, so as to detect and prevent any indiscriminate communication between ship and shore, and for the more thorough and satisfactory disinfection. During this quarantine season these laborers have worn any and all